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The Big Blue Cube

A Reading A-Z Read-Aloud Book

Long U • Word Count: 499




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The Big Blue Cube



Written by Dolores Kleinholz
Illustrated by Angela Kamstra

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WORDS USED IN THIS BOOK

High-frequency words:

1-100 a, about, all, and, are, at, ate, away, be, big, blue, but, came, come, did, for, from, have, her, him, his, how, I, if, in, it, like, many, me, my, no, not, on, one, or, out, said, she, so, that, the, their, there, they, this, those, to, up, was, we, were, what, when, where, who, will, with, would, you

101-200 here, into, make, saw, under

Long /u/ words:

beautiful, July, Lucy, rhubarb, blue, cube, mule, Duke, you, mused, doing, grouped, cute, music, Yuki, Junior, took, cuckoo, cool, tuna, fruit, food, spruce, swoop, parachute, Eugene, school, excuse, clue, situation, tuned, knew, unit, ruined, conclusion, solution, loomed, used, scoop, Gloop, Zuna, McDoogle's, cruise, through, moon, zoomed, truly

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On a beautiful morning in July, Lucy found the strangest thing out in the rhubarb patch. It was a big blue cube. It was shiny polished metal, and didn't have any marks or writing on it.

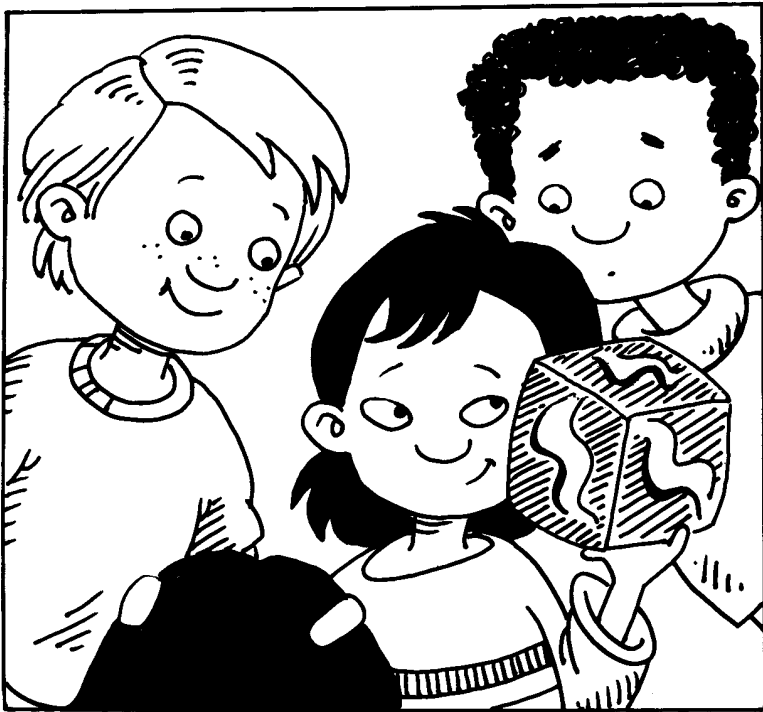


Lucy's mule, Duke, pawed at it with his hoof, but the blue cube didn't scratch or break open.

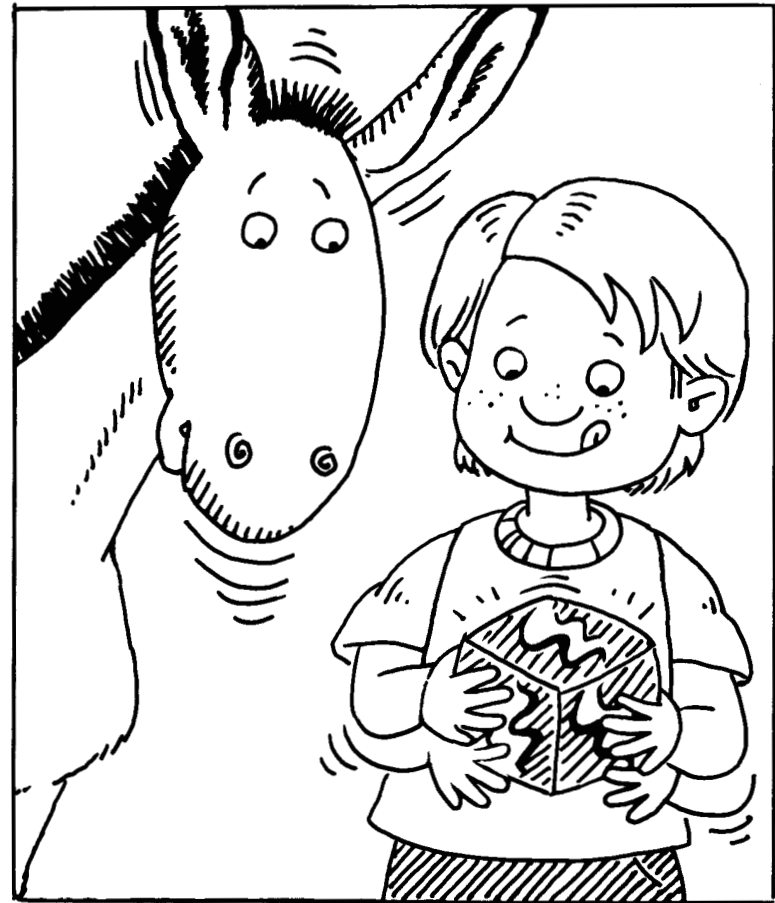
"What are you, blue cube?" mused Lucy. "What are you doing here?" The blue cube sat there and didn't make a sound. "Duke, watch that cube!" said Lucy. "I'm going to call my friends to come over right away!"

When Lucy's friends arrived, they grouped around the blue cube and stared at it.

"It's cute. Maybe it's a music box," said Yuki. She picked it up, turning it this way and that, but there were no dials or knobs. Yuki held it to her ear. "I don't hear any music," she said, "so I guess it's not a music box."



Junior took the blue cube from Yuki. "Maybe it's like a cuckoo clock," he said. "It'll only open up at a certain time and something cool will pop out." But no one else thought the blue cube was like a cuckoo clock at all.

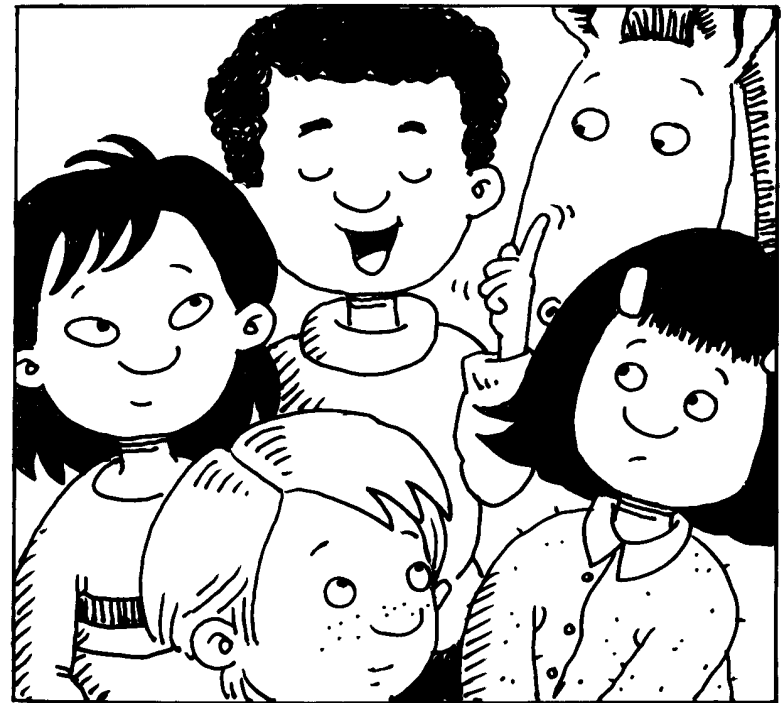




The group talked about the strange blue cube for hours. Junior made tuna sandwiches and fruit punch for lunch. They ate their food under the blue spruce near the rhubarb patch, sitting in a circle around the blue cube.

“You’re so cute, blue cube, but where did you come from?” said Yuki. “Did you swoop from the sky in a parachute?”

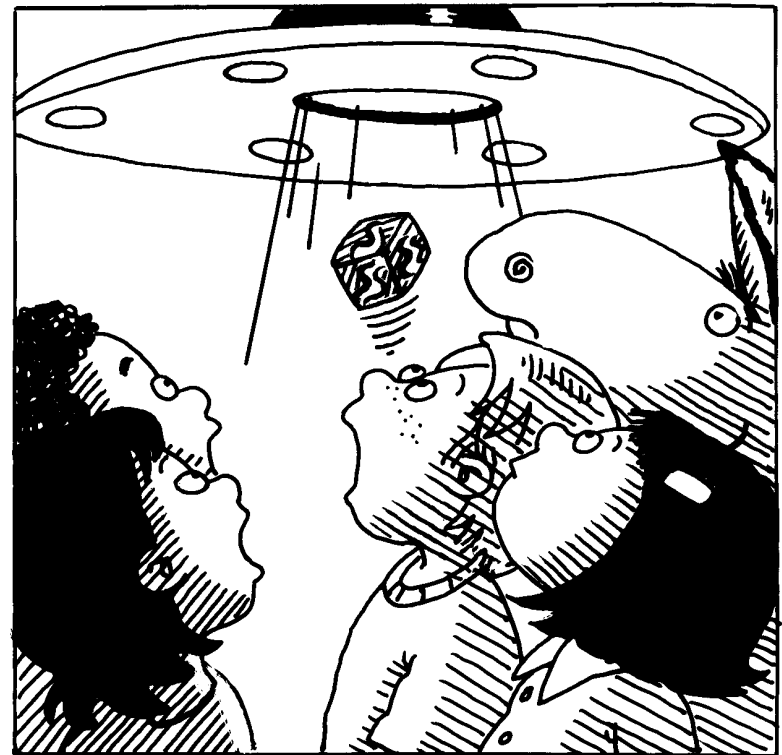
Eugene, the smartest boy in school, stood up and said, “Excuse me, but I think I have a clue about this situation.” The rest of the group turned to him and tuned in. If anyone knew what this blue cube was, Eugene would.

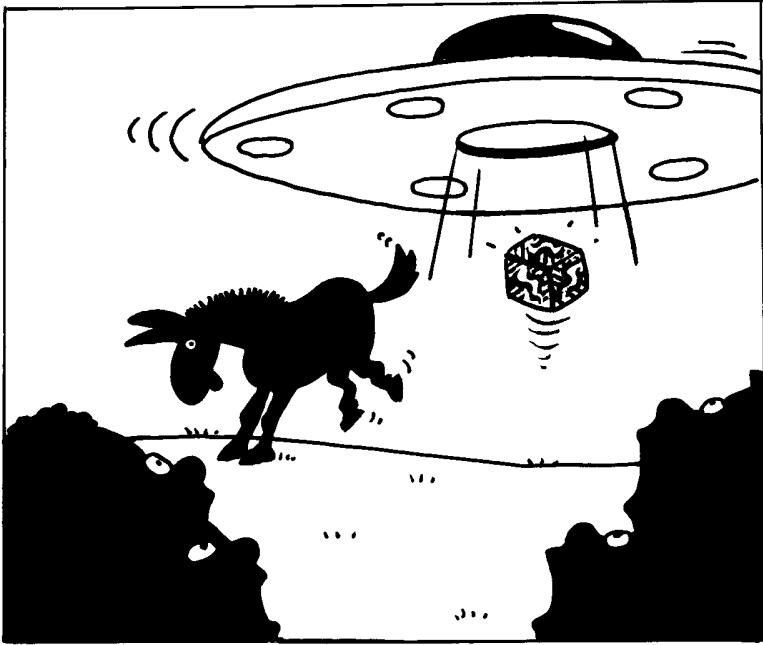




“I read about a unit in a jet that can’t be ruined or destroyed,” Eugene said. “My conclusion is that this blue cube is one of those units, and it must’ve fallen from a jet plane.”

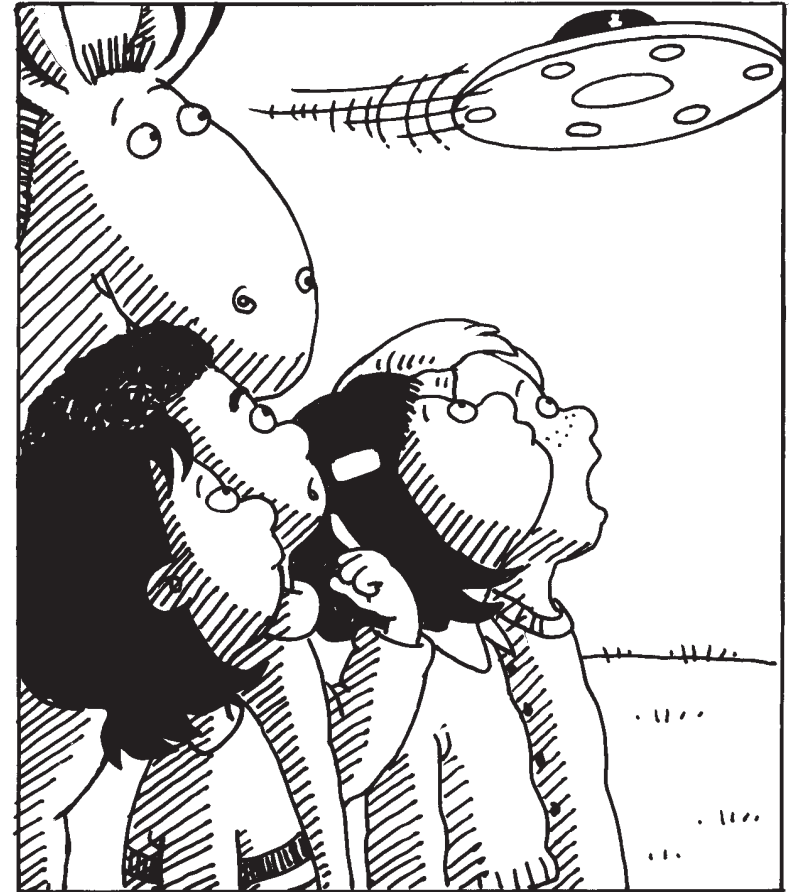
Eugene’s solution made sense until a second weird thing happened in the rhubarb patch: a flying saucer loomed right over their heads! A hatch door opened. The ship used a beam of light to scoop the blue cube into the flying saucer. Lucy, Junior, Yuki, and Eugene stood staring up in amazement.





From the flying saucer came the voice of an alien.

“Gloop and Zuna! How many times have I told you not to throw the blue cube out of the saucer?” the alien screeched. “If you ruined it, I’m not going to the McDoogle’s cruise-through to buy you Happy Treats when we reach the moon!” The hatch door slammed shut and the flying saucer, lights flashing, zoomed away into outer space.



The kids gulped, still staring.

“This truly did happen,” said Lucy, “but who would ever believe what we saw in the rhubarb patch today?”

“It’s true all right,” Eugene added, “but what in the world *was* that blue cube?”